

PRESS RELEASE

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LINCOLN COUNTY MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO WORKERS' COMPENSATION INSURANCE FRAUD

CHARLESTON, WV – West Virginia Insurance Commissioner, Jane L. Cline, announced today that Scott Saul pleaded guilty last month to one felony count of forgery.

Saul, of Yawkey, pleaded guilty May 18, 2006 to falsifying certificates of insurance. Saul's business, Pipeline Services, was attempting to contract for services with Equitable Productions, and produced the certificates in an attempt to verify workers' compensation coverage for his company.

"From the time the Fraud Division was created, we have been working aggressively to combat insurance fraud in the State of West Virginia," Cline said. "Insurance fraud is not a victimless crime, and it is critical that we continue protecting West Virginia consumers and employers against individuals who commit insurance fraud of any kind."

Saul was sentenced to one (1) to ten (10) years in prison; however, the sentence was suspended after Mr. Saul entered into a plea agreement with the Lincoln County Prosecuting Attorney's Office. Saul will serve three (3) years probation.

Investigation and prosecution in this case has been a joint effort with the Lincoln County Prosecutor's Office and the Offices of the Insurance Commissioner.

Anyone with information relating to suspected insurance fraud is urged to call,
toll-free, 1-888-372-8392.